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Review Staff: 76-0316
13 March 1976

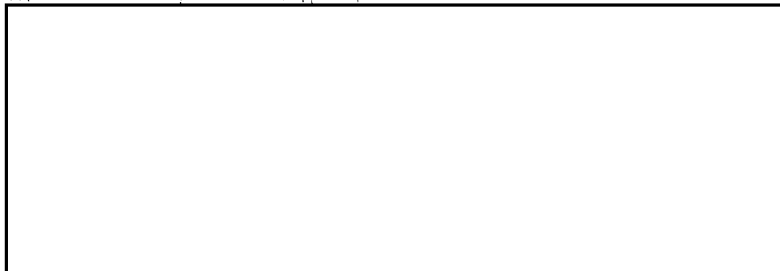
MEMROANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Status Report on Senate Select Committee
Final Report

We now identified 30 titles of reports to be included in the SSC final report. This does not include introductory material, findings, or recommendations. Of the 30, we have had a chance to review 22. Of the remaining 8, 4 are of little or no relevance to the Agency. The remaining 4, which we have not seen, are important ones: Covert Action, Espionage, Congressional Oversight, and Drug Testing.

The review at Headquarters, with Patrick Shea representing the SSC, is proceeding apace. We have forwarded written comments as required on security aspects and factual errors. We have arranged for consultation between the SSC drafters and Agency officers to discuss the drafts. In three instances, Cover, Proprietaries, Counterintelligence, where we have serious differences with the SSC, a strong case has been made to the authors, and we hope that an accommodation can be reached.

After the initial review, the SSC has agreed to submit a revised draft for a final decision on declassification. Only after receiving a written certification from the heads of all appropriate major components will the Review Staff forward a written statement notifying the SSC that we have no objection, on security grounds only, to the public release of the report. To date, we have forwarded no such letters, although the following drafts appear to need only the required approval of the component heads:



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In all our letters to the SSC, we state that nothing in our comments, oral or written, should be construed as indicating official Agency approval of or agreement with the contents or findings of the report.

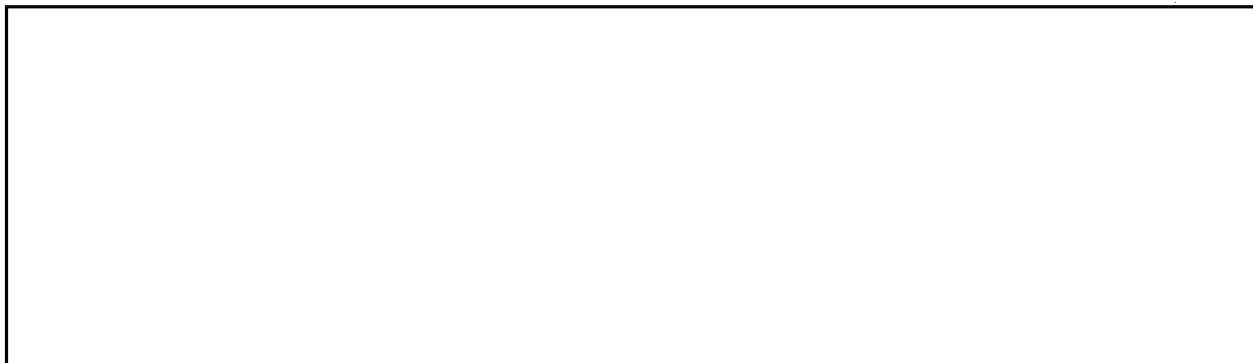
The major issue at the moment concerns our insistence that the Agency needs to review the findings and recommendations. We have evidence that there is material in these sections which should be subjected to the same review as the body of the report.

The reports are uneven in quality. An outstanding example is the present draft entitled, "The Production of Intelligence" which reflects a rudimentary understanding of the subject and undue emphasis on real or imagined problems. The author is re-drafting. On the other hand, the draft entitled, "CIA: Evolution" appears to present a reasonable and brief historical overview with due regard to protecting security information.

The time factor becomes increasingly important. Although the Committee is committed to making its final report by 31 March, we believe 15 April is a more realistic date. At least, we are not faced with a 15 March deadline. Staffers, including some of the best ones, continue to leave. Their work is left to those remaining, and this has led to reports of lesser quality.

We remain in close touch with NSC, State, and DoD representatives. We alert them to matters within their competence, and they do the same for us.

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[Redacted Signature]

Walter Elder
Review Staff

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Editorial Comments

General

The Select Committee's report on the Production of Intelligence is not very helpful in providing the reader a picture of the state of intelligence production. Useful questions are posed (see page 8, paragraph 3) and some important problems are identified, but from all this one can not glean an assessment of just how good, bad, or indifferent intelligence production is. The problems presented--and some of them are no longer relevant--are not put into perspective so that one can judge just how serious they are. As a consequence, the tenor of this section of the Committee's report is largely negative.

Page 9, para 2:

It is not clear whether this paragraph represents the conclusions of the drafter or the views of the person interviewed.

Page 13, para 3:

No evidence is given to support the assertion that "The personnel system has fostered bureaucratic layering..."

Pages 14 and 15: Recruitment and Training of Analysts

The training portion of this section deals almost exclusively with internal training by OTR and overlooks the importance of other training activities as well as on-the-job training. In FY 1975, [] persons from the DDI participated in management and executive training programs offered by OTR, [] participated in other OTR programs, [] were engaged in component training programs, and [] attended training courses outside the Agency. Most of the substantive training for analysts comes from the latter category; in FY 1975, [] people in the DDI participated in outside training courses that were longer than 6 weeks in duration.

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Pages 19-21: The "Current Events" Syndrome

This section does not recognize the efforts that have been made to deal with this problem, which is well recognized in the DDI. No reference is made, for example, to the establishment of the Office of Political Research or the analytical centers that have been organized in OSR and OER, specifically to focus on longer run problems and research. Nor is mention made of OGCR where very little of the analytical effort is devoted to "current events."

Classification Problems

Portions of the text that should be deleted because of classification are marked by brackets []. Suggested language changes appear above the brackets.

- ° page 3, para 1: "In FY 1976, the DDI had

[redacted]

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"Of the [redacted] positions in the DDI,
[redacted] are classified as professional and
26%
[redacted] as clerical."

- ° page 12, para 4: "Although the CIA has
[redacted]
[redacted] 'supergrade' positions--
and very few government agencies are per-
mitted [redacted] high a number--...."

- ° page 24, para 2: "Technical collection
systems have provided 'hard' data, e.g.,
on
[redacted] missile silos, which
have..."

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